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Signed: Michelle Chan

Michelle Chan

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No.

10/606,203

Confirmation No.:

4361

Applicant

Wesley B. Dong

Filed

June 25, 2003

TC/A.U.

Examiner

Docket No.

Customer No.

100/16101

021569

Title

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR MINIMIZING

EVAPORATION OF SAMPLE MATERIALS FROM

MULTIWELL PLATES

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.